

15 West 21 St. N.Y. 15 July /52.

My dear Gray

My last had reference to Dr. Fernald & Bridges, which you doubtless see? & subsequently the vol. from himself. I have, since, to thank you for your Silliman Papers on Harvey's Sea-weeds, Billing. &c. which reached me safely -

I am now laying out, to glue, my Euphorbia, & endeavouring (as best I may, without the required books) to understand them a little as I go - I have just run upon a snag of your own sowing, & you ought not, therefore, to grudge the trouble of clearing the Channel for me, at least in that respect. In 1848, you sent me (ex Hort. Cantab.) "E. Arkansana, Nutt" "Tex. Wright". Now there are clearly 2 different things here, & I send you a few seeds of each - One, accords well enough with the descrip.<sup>o</sup> of E. Ark. Engl. & Gr. in Lindh. but is that also E. Arkansana of Nutt, as your label runs? The other plant is extremely like what I suppose to be E. Peplus, except that the seeds are irregularly furrowed, rather than pitted. I have an idea that 528 Lindheimer (of which I have only a young bit from Sam.) is the same plant, as this; & 698 Lindh. seems also to come very near it, but I have no ripe seeds -

Spalding's Oregon plant has the lightly reticulated seeds & serrulate leaves of your (or Nutt's?) E. Arkansana, but the bracts are not rounded, but like the leaves, lanceolate, or oblanceolate. What is Nuttall's E. Peplodes to which you compare your plant? Except in the smooth Carpel, it would seem to be very nearly E. platyphyllum. Where did Nutt. describe it? I have from Hook, what he says is E. comutata, Englm. but it is

I think just what you intend in the Man. for *E. pepalus*, of which I have no European exemplar.

Now, I think I see your farming (more two) & saying Comfords the fellow - what should I know about Euphorbia? But, patience friend Gray - give me half an hour, quietly,

1<sup>st</sup> Because you have troubled me, by carelessly sending two different plants, under one label -

2<sup>d</sup> Because it is charitable, to enlighten, with a ray of your wisdom, those who sit in darkness.

3<sup>d</sup> Because it will eventually help yourself, as your own garden spec<sup>ies</sup> are also, probably mixed; & at any rate, you will have to attend to the matter in connection with W. Wright & Lindh.

4<sup>th</sup> Because I will not let you rest, until you have attended to the matter - This is an argument, I think!

When looking into your specimens I pray you to lay ~~by~~ for me, any thing that can be spared (fragments, if better may not be) of the following -

*Euphorbia pepalus* - European, & authentic.

Esula

*peploides*, Nutt.

*Arkansana*, Engelm. & Gr. (with.)

*Arkansana*, Nutt. (if any such species)

I have not seen Torrey, for some time, & am quite without news. Kind love to W. G. & some to yourself, if you attend to the within, incidentally, any spec<sup>ies</sup> you may have to spare, of the above, can wait, until you are sending the weight plants,

or what not. I believe I will make an analysis of my letters, to ensure your careful answer, to its contents.

Examine seeds, enclosed, & report as to species.

Is there a *E. Arkansana* Nutt. as well as of Engelm. & Gr. <sup>(so, where described)</sup>

Is 528 Lindh. the same as the pl. with ruyose seeds, herewith.

Is 698. Lindh. distinct from 528

Is Spalding's Oregon pl. a form of *E. Arkansana* Engelm. & Gr.

What is Nutt's *E. peploides*, & where described.

Do you know Engelmann's *E. commutata*, & how it differs from *E. pepalus*?

I am Yrs. (as your care & promptitude may deserve) H.

Loverly